Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

| 1 |
|---|
| Г |

## REQUEST **CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| Application Number     | 10/594,114         |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Filing Date            | September 25, 2006 |
| First Named Inventor   | Hideo Noro, et al. |
| Group Art Unit         | 2628               |
| Examiner Name          | E. Martello        |
| Attorney Docket Number | 00862.109670       |

|   | See  | tinued p<br>Change  | rosec<br>es to i    | C.FR. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identi-<br>tution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29<br>Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, F<br>1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established | instead of a RC<br>inal Rule, 65 Fed   | E to be eligible for the patent term | adjustment provisions of the AIPA. |  |  |
|---|--|---|---------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1.  | Sı   | ıbmiss  | ion r               | required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114   |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   | a.   |   | Pre                 | eviously submitted   |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   |  | i.<br>ii.<br>iii.   |                     | Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   | b.   | $\Box$  | End                 | closed   |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   |  | i.<br>ii.<br>iii.<br>iv.  | <u>~</u>            | Preliminary Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Other   |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
| 2.  | Mi   | scellar   | neou                | IS   |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   | a.   | Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) |                     |  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   | b.   |   | Oth                 | Other  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
| 3.  | Fe   | es  | The                 | e RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   | a.   |   |                     | ne Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to eposit Account No06-1205   |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   |  | i.<br>ii.<br>iii.   | <u>~</u>            | RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and Other   | i 1.17)                                |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   | b. The filing fee in the amount of \$ 810.00 is being paid electronically. |   |                     |  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
|   | c.   |   | Pay                 | yment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED   |  |   |                     |  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
| Name ( <i>Print/Type</i> ) L.   |  | e)  | LAWRENCE A. STAHL   | Registration   | gistration No. (Attorney/Agent) 30,110 |                                      |                                    |  |  |
| Signature   |  |   | /Lawrence A. Stahl/ | Date   | March 8, 2010                          |                                      |                                    |  |  |
| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION  |  |   |                     |  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: |  |   |                     |  |  |                                      |                                    |  |  |

Name (Print/Type)

Signature

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date

Form #161 JDS\kag